

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS***Introduction***

A response to the office action dated December 26, 2003 was filed on March 19, 2004. An advisory action was mailed on April 5, 2004. Claims 4, 5, 9 and 11-25 are pending in the application.

Amended claims 4, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are rewritten to comply with 37 CFR 1.173.

Conclusion

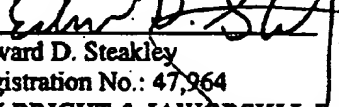
Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the claim rejections. It is submitted that this application is condition for allowance. If there are any question, call the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 06-2375, under Order No. HO-P02233US0 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: May 25, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Edward D. Steakley
Registration No.: 47,964
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.
1301 McKinney, Suite 5100
Houston, Texas 77010-3095
(713) 651-5423
(713) 651-5246 (Fax)
Attorneys for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I do hereby certify that a copy of the Supplemental Response to Office Action Dated 12/26/2003, in a manner provided in 37 CFR 1.248, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on May 25, 2004, addressed to:

Cynthia G. Seal
2925 Briarpark, Suite 930
Houston, Texas 77042


Edward D. Steakley